

My name is Jen Ezzell. I'd like to thank the Public Safety & Security Committee for holding this public hearing to discuss our concerns with them on the various issues being proposed today.

I am opposed to a number of these bills and wish to take the time to focus on why they are being proposed and to ask a few questions.

Since Dec. 14, 2012, when CT, the country, and the world were rocked by the horrible tragedy that occurred in Sandy Hook, CT, we have heard the cries that something had to be done. Legislators were telling us that their constituents were telling them to "do something". To prevent another Sandy Hook, to make us all safer, and because the eyes of the Nation are on CT.

To date, legislators have proposed around 100 gun issue bills. I have read a number of them, and with each one I have asked myself, how would this prevent another Sandy Hook from happening? Sadly none of the proposed legislation will.

SB # 1076 – I oppose, but am only going to focus on a few aspects of it.

I oppose the restriction on semi-automatics, whether they be long guns or handguns. I am not an expert on the various guns, but I do not agree to your limiting my ability to purchase a gun that will be easier for me to use as I age and experience limited mobility. The AR – 15, with its pistol grip is an easier gun to use for the elderly, the disabled, and small framed women. With the number of these types of guns out in the general populous, this type of regulation puts future gun owners at a disadvantage.

Within its proposals there is the proposal to restrict the number of guns permitted to be legally purchased in a 30 day period. How would this have stopped the Sandy Hook tragedy, or any other type of gun tragedy?

Another proposal, in SB #1076, is to require those who wish to own a rifle to apply for a permit. Again, how would this prevent another SH tragedy? Furthermore to require one to have a "paid for" permit to own and carry a gun infringes on my right (per the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment of the US Constitution) to possess and carry a gun. Just as we do not have to pay a "fee" or "poll tax" to vote, to exercise our 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Right or any other right, it is unconstitutional for the state of CT to force us to comply with an arbitrary dollar amount, in order to exercise our unalienable right to bear arms. The training and safety course requirement, though nice and most people will avail themselves to, is also unconstitutional...unless the state wishes to pick up the tab for it. Going one step further, by this unconstitutional state requirement you are prohibiting (or making it difficult for) low income families from being able to legally exercise their 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Right to bear arms.